Avon Dassett Parish Council Minutes of Ordinary Meeting
Thursday 24th May 2018, 7.30 pm at The Reading Room.

1) PRESENT: Trevor Gill, Mike Blakeman, Darrell Muffitt, Clerk (Helen Hide-Wright), Councillor Fielding. 2 members of the public.

   APOLOGIES: Martyn Heard, Liz Hirst, Councillor Williams (work). Apologies accepted by the Parish Councillors.

2) DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None.

3) CONFIRM MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The minutes were accepted. Proposed: Trevor Gill, seconded: Mike Blakeman. Signed and date by Trevor Gill.

4) QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

5) MATTERS ARISING:

Community

a) Burial Ground: A request has been received to use the cemetery car park for the forthcoming soap box, open gardens and fete events. Approved.

b) Community Policing/Neighbourhood Watch: Darrell Muffitt reported that he had been in touch with the Police regarding the individuals who were in the village claiming to be looking for scrap metal. The Police investigated the matter. The Police advised residents to ring 101 when such instances occur.

c) Playground: Trevor Gill reported that an estimate has been received by the Parish Council. Councillors felt that the quotation figure was significant and therefore a second quote should be sought. In previous discussions grant funds had been mentioned to fund the project. Ownership of the playing field was discussed. **ACTION: Second quote to be sought for new play equipment along with potential sources of funding for the project**.

d) Superfast Broadband: Trevor Gill gave an update on the coverage. In respect of the Bitham Hall issue the latest information from BT Openreach is that further works will need to be undertaken at a time which is currently projected to be August 2018. An alternative has been identified which would be to install a mast in the village. This would need a minimum of 30 residents to sign up to pre-contract agreements to make it viable. The mast and infrastructure would be installed a no cost to the village or residents and the provider would also arrange any planning permissions required. If installed the cost of the monthly contract would be £35 per month with unlimited data. It was decided to explore this option further and establish a committee to do this. John Feilding provided a contact name from a neighbouring village which operates a similar scheme. He was also outlined a grant from the District Council to support broadband in villages.

e) Post Office: Nothing to report.

f) Village Communications and website: Darrell reported that an initial meeting had taken place which was not well attended. A draft questionnaire is being developed.

   Trevor Gill confirmed that anyone who has not yet confirmed that they wish to remain on the village communications database (Mail Chimp) will not receive any email communications from the Parish Council. An email was sent to all subscribers on 17 April and a chaser has been sent on 24 May to all subscribers who had not replied. This method of communication is the primary way by which we keep residents informed of Parish Council and local village events and residents who have not already opted in are encouraged do to so.

g) War memorial: The War memorial needs attention to remove the weeds and tidy the area. **ACTION: Trevor Gill will undertake this work.**

h) Community website: See point f.

i) Reading Room – refurbishment and noticeboard: Darrell Muffitt will chase up the quote for repairs to the Reading Room. Trevor Gill thanked Mike Blakeman for finding a suitable notice board at a fraction of the price. The Board will be installed outside the Reading Room. An emergency payment will be made to cover the cost for the notice board for £200.

j) 100th anniversary of end of WW1: The Parish Council is not organising an event but is aware that the

k) MOD is organising something on Burton Dassett hills close to the anniversary. The Clerk outlined the Silent Soldier initiative which Burton Dassett PC is currently running. BDPC had offered to loan the Silent Soldier for display in Avon Dassett. The Parish Council were supportive of this idea. **ACITON: Clerk to contact Chairman of BDPC and request the loan of the Silent Soldier**

Roads: Traffic, Roads and Drains (Church Hill)

l) Drains: Blockages to be reported to Patch Byrne. **ACTION: Clerk to report blocked drains on Church Hill.**

m) The Parish Council received a number of complaints about the maintenance of the green areas in the village. Upon investigation the contractor confirmed that there had been an oversight in the scope of the work. They attended a site visit, offered an apology for the standard of the work and supervised the next appointment. The Parish Council would like to thank those residents who mowed areas of the village during this period of time and reported the issues. It is hoped that the matters are now resolved but residents should report any further issues to the Parish Clerk / Parish Councillors.

Environment/Maintenance: Trevor Gill mentioned the issues with the AD to Farnborough Road. The road needs further work to the edges of the highway. The matter is being monitored.

Communication/Administration

6) COUNCIL REPORTS: County Councillor Chris Williams (Appendix 1).

District Councillor Report (Appendix 2).

7) CORRESPONDENCE – Paper copies circulated at meeting. Emails circulated prior to meeting.

8) PLANNING (Declarations of interests):

Planning Decisions: 18/00659/LBC 15 Avon Carrow: Consent Granted with conditions

17/03760/FUL: Flat 5 Bitham Hall: Permission with conditions

Extraordinary Planning meeting 10th May 2018: 18/000984/FUL Lorien: No Objection. (with recommendation to seek clarification on aspects of the application).

Planning Applications: 17/03760/FUL: Flat 5 Bitham Hall: Amended/Additional details

18/01318/TPO Lime Cottage: Arboreal work (lime tree): No Representation

18/01008/TREE: 11 Avon Carrow: Arboreal work (plum tree): No Representation.

18/00984/FUL: Lorien, Lower End. Amendment: Addition of dropped kerb and parking space to site plan: No Objection: Same comment as that registered from planning meeting on 10th May, with similar details required for the drive way and gate posts.

9) FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Payments:	*24.5.18*	*Thomas Fox (Inv 24240)*	*£522.00*
	24.5.18	*Bill Robinson (Inv 008)*	*£ 90.00*
	24.5.18	*Hide-Wright (May expenses)*	*£ 12.90*
	11th May 2018 DD payment to N Power H1640002		*£ 5.45*
	11th May 2018 DD payment to N Power H1640003		*£198.42*
		Total Payments	**£828.77**

Proposed: Trevor Gill, Seconded: Darrell Muffitt.

Audit: The Clerk confirm that the internal audit had concluded and that the signed audit papers will be sent on

to the external auditor.

10) MEMBER REPORTS: None.

11) DATE OF MEETINGS in 2018: 2nd July, 3rd Sept, 1st Oct, 5th Nov, 3rd Dec 2018.

The meeting concluded at 8.40pm.

Appendix 1: FINANCIAL STATEMENT May 2018, Avon Dassett Parish Council:

Balance at close of business 31st April 2018

Current Account	£	13,647.70
Savings Account	£	12,834.78* Ring fenced funds and interest received.

Bank Transactions

Current Account		**Chq/SO/DD/TRF/FPI**	**In**	**Out**
3 April 18	Zurich Municipal	TRF		483.75
9 April 18	WCC	TRF		136.80
9 April 18	Hide-Wright	TRF		12.90
9 April 18	WALC	TRF		104.00
9 April 18	AD History Group	TRF		224.14
9 April 18	Frank Mann Farmers	TRF		147.60
9 April 18	Thomas Fox	TRF		115.20
10 April 18	Dassett Mens Group	Deposit	25.00	
20 April 18	Hide-Wright	SO		306.66
20 April 18	N Power	DD		31.00
24 April 18	Warks Pension Fund	SO		93.78
26 April 18	SDC (Precept)	BGC	7,680.00	

Deposit Account	**In**	**Out**
9 April 18	0.55	

Payments Authorised From The Meeting

24.5.18	Thomas Fox Inv 24240	£522.00
24.5.18	Bill Robinson Inv 008	£ 90.00
24.5.18	Hide-Wright Expenses	£ 12.90
Sub total		**£624.90**
11.5.18	DD Npower Inv LGU7QL89	£198.42
11.5.18	DD Npower Inv LGU7QL88	£ 5.45
Subtotal		**£203.87**

Total Payments and Direct Debits £828.77

New Balances for Ring Fenced Funds:

Description	**Amount**
Neighbourhood Watch	£ 185.00
St John's Steps Appeal Funds	£ 86.19
I.T. Equip & Software	£ 548.59
Play area lease	£ 200.00
Reading Room Maintenance	£ 8,810.00
Playground	£ 250.00
Parish Plan	£ 2,000.00
Village Cemetery	£ 275.00
Village Maintenance	£ 230.00
Defibrillator	£ 250.00
Total	**£12,834.78**

Appendix 2. County Councillor Chris Williams.

Avon Dassett Annual Meeting – 24th May 2018
County Councillor's Annual Report

We are now at the end of the first year that the Conservative Group has been in full control of the administration at Shire Hall. Previously, we were the largest party but not in overall control. Throughout the past year there has been a strong message from government that austerity continues and this is the second year of a three-year savings plan. I must reassure you that the County Council's finances are in a sound state unlike our neighbours, Northamptonshire. The pressures have been brought about by a reduction in the amount of support we receive from central government. Mandatory services have been maintained despite a 30% reduction in staffing over the last six years.

When I first became elected in 2009, the budget was some £120 million more than the present level. Warwickshire is performing well when compared with other authorities. Unemployment is 2.9% compared with a national average of 4.5%. Productivity is 10% higher than the West Midlands average and there are now more than 25,000 businesses registered in our county. Warwickshire is a popular county in which to live. As well as wealth creation the expanding population and increase in housing numbers brings its problems to the infrastructure especially traffic on our roads. Our budget for 2018/19 provides £100,000 for extra staff in the Highway Planning Section to help with logistics.

From our budget of nearly £470 million, £132 million will allocated to Adult Care and £57 million to Children's welfare. i.e. Fostering, Adoption and Safeguarding. To put these figures into perspective the total budget for the District Council was £12 million. To continue the strong financial position of the County Council as well as maintaining growth and the well-being of the less well off, we need to increase our revenue by some £45 million over the next two years. Further savings through staff efficiencies will provide £25 million of this sum, increases in housing numbers will produce £9 million and the proposed increase in Council Tax for this year produces £10 million. Basically, a 1% increase in Council Tax produces £2 million in revenue.

Last year I predicted that we intended to increase our Care Staff and I am pleased to report that over the past year we have employed an additional 40 Carers to help with the adult care responsibility.

Some 25 children currently in the care of the County Council have been accepted by various Universities including three places to Oxbridge. This is a remarkable success story when compared to other authorities. We currently have over 700 children in care and our Fostering and Adoption Services are recognised nationally for their enviable reputation.

I am proud to represent Kineton & Red Horse Division at Warwickshire County Council and that with all the gloomy predictions we are able to administer the authority with no reductions in any of our front-line services.

Cllr Chris Williams
Member for Kineton Division - WCC
20.05.18.

Appendix 3: District Councillor.

Extract From a letter from Banbury's MP Re Horton Hospital

Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP)'s view is that the removal of obstetric services at the HGH should be looked at again before a final decision is made. This should include a review of the options the Clinical Senate looked at last year, and take into account: local growth; travel arrangements for labouring mothers; the geographical spread of the HGH's catchment area; and, the views of mothers who have given birth at the unit since the temporary suspension took effect.

The IRP also advised the Trust to continue with recruitment efforts while the additional work is ongoing.

My own opinion is that this presents us with the opportunity to start again with a blank sheet. Going back to the drawing board to present a real vision for the future of health services in North Oxfordshire is what we have asked for all along.

To aide oversight and scrutiny, in his letter which accompanied the IRP's advice, the SoS has recommended we set up a "super-HOSC" combining the local authorities who have a health oversight function within the Horton's catchment area i.e. across county lines. There seems to be clear appetite for this; I am hopeful Stratford will join in given their support for the IRP referral and the judicial review.

The Over and Scrutiny Committee met with a representative from Orbit. We are very concerned about Orbit's treatment of their tenants.

Broadband the Council has provided £50,000 for feasibility study. The Cabinet could put aside a sum of say up to £500,000 to help with implementing solution to improve high speed broadband. This is being wirelessly. I will if interest forward the details once published. The Council have been in talks with the organisation that have taken over from SugerNet.

The Cabinet is to consider on 23 April the work is commissioned by The Cabinet into the options available to the Council for delivering housing in the District.

The Cabinet considered a report which presented the work that had been commissioned from GVA to provide a detailed business plan as a first stage in the creation of a housing company owned by the Council to deliver Affordable housing in the District.

Housing Mix: 2 planning application have been rejected due to the mix of houses proposed by the developer. The Committees have taken the view that current development must comply the requirements of the Core Strategy as there are too many large houses coming forward for approval.